Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The matter is receiving the attention of the Government.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I know if there is any chance of this question being satisfactorily settled at an early date?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The matter has been referred to the Harbour Department for preparing an estimate for constructing a canal. Government will pass orders when the estimates are received.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The idea is to get the canal cut by the big drudger?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Venduruthi Canal.

20. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) what action has the Government taken to redeem the promise made inside this House and in the reply to the Municipal Address received by the Diwan during his last visit to the Mattancheri Municipality to give a safe channel for the ferry boats to pass up and down between Mattancheri and Ernakulam;

(2) is the Government not aware of the fact that the time-table sanctioned by the Government for the ferry is not kept up on account of the circuitous route that the boats have to take owing to the Harbour works in the backwater, and what steps have been taken by Government for easing the inconveniences and loss of time that the travelling public is put to now;

(3) is the Government aware of the public statement made by the Diwan on the 25th August 1930 at Mattancheri, that orders have been passed and the Chief Engineer has been directed to take steps to provide a channel;

(4) is any estimate made for the purpose and if so what is the cost;

(5) what are the proposed works to be done to provide this channel;

(6) what survey has been made, who is the officer entrusted with the work; if nothing has been done, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the same?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) The matter is being taken up with the Harbour Department. Their estimates for the work are awaited.

(2) The inconveniences to people mentioned therein have now been greatly reduced as the dredger "Lord Willingdon" has ceased its work for the time being in the Turning Basin. The ferry boats need not now take the circuitous route they

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